

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 5, 14, 18, and 21 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 9, 15, and 22 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A reproducing apparatus comprising:

reproducing means for reproducing image data of a plurality of contents from a recording medium and writing the reproduced image data in a memory;

displaying means for displaying a plurality of representative images of the plurality of contents on the same screen;

selecting means for selecting a desired representative image from among the plurality of representative images displayed on the same screen;

reproduction instruction means for instructing reproduction start of the contents independently of a selecting operation by the selecting means ~~corresponding to the selected representative image;~~

reproduction processing means for reading out the image data stored in the memory and outputting the image data as reproduced image data; and

controlling means for controlling the reproducing means and the reproduction processing means in response to the selecting operation by the selecting means so that the reproducing means reproduces part of the image data of the contents concerning the selected representative image and writes the part of the image data in the memory and the reproduction processing means does not effect reading out the written part of the image data from the memory, the

controlling means further controlling the reproduction processing means in response to the reproduction start instruction by the reproduction instruction means so that the reproduction processing means starts readout of the part of the image data from the memory, wherein the image data includes a plurality of clips each showing series of moving images, and each of the plurality of contents includes the plurality of clips belonging to the same group.

2. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image data includes a plurality of clips each showing series of moving images, and each of the plurality of contents includes each one of the clips.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the displaying means generates a plurality of display hierarchies including the contents different from one another, and switches the representative image to be displayed, between the display hierarchies.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the controlling means controls the reproducing means in response to the switching among the display hierarchies displayed by the displaying means so that the reproducing means reproduces part of the image data of the content selected from among the plurality of contents of the display hierarchy newly displayed.

7. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controlling means further controls the reproducing means in response to the reproduction start instruction so that the reproducing means starts the data reproduction of the data from the part of the image data in the selected contents and writes the data from the part of the image data in the memory.

8. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controlling means controls the reproducing means in response to the selecting operation by the selecting means so that the reproducing means reproduces the image data according to an amount of data of the memory from a front end of the selected contents and writes the image data in the memory.

9. (Currently Amended) A reproducing apparatus comprising:

- reproducing means for reproducing image data of a plurality of contents from a recording medium and writing the reproduced image data in a memory;
- displaying means for displaying a menu screen including a plurality of representative images of the plurality of contents on a display apparatus ~~the same screen~~;
- selecting means for selecting a desired representative image from among ~~in~~ the plurality of representative images displayed on the menu ~~same~~ screen;
- reproduction instruction means for instructing reproduction start of the contents independently of a selecting operation by the selecting means ~~corresponding to the selected representative image~~;
- reproduction processing means for reading out the image data stored in the memory and outputting the image data as reproduced image data; and

controlling means for controlling the reproducing means when the menu screen is being displayed by the displaying means so that the reproducing means reproduces part of the each image data of the contents concerning each of the plurality of representative images displayed on the menu ~~same screen by the displaying means~~ and writes the part of each image data in the memory, the controlling means further controlling the reproduction processing means in response to the reproduction start instruction by the reproduction instruction means so that the reproduction processing means reads out and outputs ~~starts readout of part of~~ the image data of the contents concerning the selected representative images among the image data stored in ~~from~~ the memory.

10. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the displaying means displays the representative image in response to a display instruction of the representative image, and the controlling means controls the reproducing means in response to the display instruction of the representative picture so that the reproducing means reproduces the part of each image data of the contents concerning the plurality of representative images displayed on the same screen by the displaying means and writes the part of each image data in the memory.

11. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the image data includes a plurality of clips each showing series of moving images, and each of the plurality of contents includes one of the clips.

12. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the image data includes a plurality of clips each showing series of moving images, and each of the plurality of contents includes the plurality of clips belonging to the same group.

13. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the displaying means generates a plurality of display hierarchies including the contents different from one another, and switches the representative image to be displayed, between the display hierarchies.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 9 ~~13~~, wherein the controlling means controls the reproducing means in response to the switching of the menu screen ~~among the display hierarchies displayed by the displaying means~~ so that the reproducing means reproduces a predetermined amount of the part of each image data from the head of the each of the plurality of contents corresponding respectively to the plurality of representative images displayed on a post-switching menu screen ~~of the display hierarchy newly displayed~~.

16. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the controlling means further controls the reproducing means in response to the reproduction start instruction so that the reproducing means starts the data reproduction of the data from the part of the image data in the selected contents and writes the data from the part of the image data in the memory.

17. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the controlling means controls the reproducing means so that the reproducing means reproduces the image data of a predetermined amount which is decided on the basis of data capacity of the memory and the number of screens of the representative screen displayed on the same screen, from a front end of the contents concerning the plurality of representative images respectively and stores the image data of the predetermined amount in the memory.

18 - 21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A reproducing apparatus comprising:
reproducing means for reproducing image data from a recording medium and writing the reproduced image data in a memory;

displaying means for displaying a menu screen including a plurality of representative images ~~reproduction start position information~~ concerning a plurality of predetermined reproduction start positions in the image data recorded on the recording medium on a display apparatus ~~the same screen~~;

selecting means for selecting a desired representative image ~~reproduction start position~~ from among the plurality of representative images ~~reproduction start positions~~ displayed in the menu screen ~~by the displaying means~~;

reproduction instruction means for instructing start of reproduction of the image data independently of a selecting operation by the selecting means ~~from the selected reproduction start position~~;

reproduction processing means for reading out the image data stored in the memory and outputting the image data as reproduced image data; and

controlling means for controlling the reproducing means when the menu screen is being displayed by the displaying means so that the reproducing means reproduces the image data of a predetermined amount from each of the plurality of predetermined reproduction start positions and writes the image data of the predetermined amount in the memory, the controlling means further controlling the reproduction processing means in response to the reproduction start instruction by the reproduction instruction means so that the reproduction processing means starts to read out ~~readout of part of the~~ stored image data at ~~of the contents corresponding to the selected~~ reproduction start position corresponding to the selected representative image from among the image data stored in ~~from~~ the memory.

23 - 25. (Cancelled)